

Remarks

The Examiner has made a serious error of law in his response. It is a well established principle of law that a patentee may be his own lexicographer. *Lear Siegler, Inc. v. Aeroquip Corp.* 221 USPQ 1025, 1031. The Examiner's interpretation of the phrase "derived digital lines" is contrary to the clear meaning given to the phrase in the applicants' specification. It is clear from the specification that "derived digital lines" means stealing bandwidth from the other lines to create new line." Page 16, lines 2-4. Nowhere in the specification is there support for the idea that "derived digital lines" means selecting one of an existing group of telephone lines. The Examiner's error should be corrected and the application allowed.

Prompt reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

(Bossemeyer et al.)

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